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The University of Montana

NEWS RELEASE

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Jan. 30, 1996

WILDERNESS SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED AT UM

MISSOULA --

The University of Montana Foundation has received a \$5,000 gift to establish a scholarship at UM's School of Forestry for students in the wilderness and civilization program or the proposed wilderness stewardship degree program.

William A. and Eva Jean Worf of Missoula established the endowment in memory of their sons Gary and Keith, who died in separate accidents -- Gary in 1980 and Keith in 1993.

"Both Gary and Keith held a deep respect for nature in general and wilderness in particular," Worf said.

In setting up the Gary and Keith Worf Memorial Wilderness Scholarship, the Worf's wish to "aid in securing the integrity of the National Wilderness Preservation System by encouraging the education of professional wilderness stewards." Scholarship applicants will write an essay on the system's public value and importance.

Wilderness and civilization is an interdisciplinary program integrating the humanities, sciences and social sciences. It focuses on understanding wilderness and wildlands and their relationship to contemporary American society.

William Worf, a 1950 graduate of the forestry school, is one of three founders and the current president of Wilderness Watch, a national nonprofit conservation organization dedicated to preserving America's wilderness and wild and scenic rivers.

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Additional funds are needed to fully endow this scholarship. Anyone interested in donating to the fund may call Kathy Schaub, the development officer for the forestry school, at (406) 243-4568.

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Contacts: Kathy Schaub, development officer, UM Foundation; Perry Brown, dean, forestry school, (406) 243-5521.

KS/tb

Local and specialized western papers; Forsyth

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